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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

INTERAGENCY INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT
15 February 1984

THE CUBAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN NICARAGUA

This Interagency Intelligence Assessment was requested by the Director of Central Intelligence. It was prepared under the auspices of the National Intelligence Officer for Latin America. The Assessment was coordinated at the working level within the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, and the intelligence organization of the Department of State. Also participating were the intelligence organizations of the Departments of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Marine Corps. Information available as of 13 February 1983 was used in the preparation of this Assessment.

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THE CUBAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN NICARAGUA

The Intelligence Community has revised its estimate of the number of Cubans in Nicaragua to a range of 7,000 to 10,000, including 2,500 to 3,500 military and security personnel. This higher figure is based primarily on analysis of the requirements of an expanded Nicaraguan military establishment in the light of fragmentary evidence on the distribution of Cuban advisers. It does not represent a recent influx of Cubans into Nicaragua.

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DISCUSSION

Over the past year the Nicaraguan military establishment has grown, has become more complex, and has acquired additional military hardware. In the Community's judgment, these developments have created an increased requirement for Cuban military advisers and technicians.

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Some analysts have suggested that the number of Cuban military advisers may be even higher. Better evidence would be needed, however, to justify raising the estimate further. [REDACTED]

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Cuban Civilians

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